

## RISE Student Learning Objectives Glossary

**Achievement:** Defined as meeting a uniform and pre-determined level of mastery on subject- or grade-level standards. Achievement is a set point or “bar” that is the same for all students, regardless of where they begin.

**Class Objective:** A mastery goal based on students’ starting point for a class of students covering all of the Indiana content standards for the course.

**Classroom Assessment:** A teacher-developed assessment used by a single teacher for a particular course, e.g., a teacher’s world history final exam that only this particular teacher uses. Please note that a classroom assessment does not refer to an assessment created by and administered by *groups* of teachers (see school assessment).

**Content Mastery Standard:** A score on an assessment that a student must obtain in order to be considered as having achieved mastery. The content mastery standard is typically between passing and 100%.

**Corporation Assessment:** A common assessment that is mandated or optional for use corporation-wide. The assessment may have been created by teachers within the corporation or purchased from an assessment vendor. Some examples are mCLASS, AP, and NWEA.

**End-of-Course Assessment:** An assessment given at the end of the school year or semester course that measures mastery in a given content area. The state currently offers end-of-course assessments in Algebra I, English 10, and Biology I. However, many corporations and schools have end-of-course assessments that they have created on their own. Depending on the class, an end-of-course assessment may be a project instead of a paper-and-pencil test.

**Growth:** Improving skills required to achieve mastery on a subject or grade level standard over a period of time. Growth differentiates mastery expectations based on baseline performance.

**Indiana Growth Model:** This growth rating is one of two methods used to measure student learning. The other method is Student Learning Objectives. For teachers, the Indiana Growth Model rating is calculated by comparing the progress of students in a teacher’s class to students throughout the state who have the same score history (their academic peers). To increase the accuracy and precision of this growth rating, the score will reflect three years’ worth of assessment data where available. Currently, growth model data only exists for students in grades 4-8 in ELA and math.

**Initial Conference:** A conference in the fall during which a teacher and primary evaluator discuss the teacher’s students’ starting points and approve the Student Learning Objectives. It can be scheduled in conjunction with an observation conference or Beginning-of-Year conference.

**Mid-Course Check-In:** A conference in the middle of the year in which the primary evaluator and teacher meet to discuss progress made toward Student Learning Objectives.

**Professional Judgment:** A primary evaluator's ability to look at information gathered and to make an informed decision regarding a teacher's performance without using a predetermined formula.

**School Assessment:** Assessments developed by groups of teachers that are mandated or optional for use school-wide, e.g., end-of-course assessments written by science teachers and used in all chemistry classes in the school.

**Statewide Assessment:** An assessment that is mandated for use state-wide, e.g., ECAs, ISTEP+, LAS Links.

**Student Learning:** Student Learning is the second major component of the summative evaluation score (the first is Professional Practice). Student Learning is measured by a teacher's individual Indiana Growth Model data (when available), school-wide Indiana Growth Model data, and Student Learning Objectives. These elements of student learning are weighted differently depending on the mix of classes a teacher teaches.

**Student Learning Objective:** A long-term academic goal that teachers and evaluators set for groups of students. It must be specific and measureable, based on available prior student learning data, aligned to state standards when available, and based on growth and achievement.

**Summative Conference:** A conference where the primary evaluator and teacher discuss summative student data results related to the scoring of Student Learning Objectives. This conference could happen in the spring or fall, depending on the availability of the data. It can be scheduled in conjunction with another conference.

**Targeted Objective:** A growth and/or achievement goal that may cover all or a subset of Indiana content standards targeted at students beginning the class at a low level of preparedness.